GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3640
ANSWERED ON:17.04.2008
AIR SERVICE FROM KOLKATA
Khan Shri Sunil

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the time by which Kolkata Airport is proposed to be revived;

(b) whether number of flights have been withdrawn from Kolkata Airport and about 15 State capital have no direct flight from Kolkata specially services of Air India;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to provide air service from Kolkata Airport; and

(d) the time by which the Greenfield Airport of Andal is proposed to be constructed?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION(SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a) An Inter-Ministerial Group (IMG) has approved the Action Plan for development of Kolkata airport at a total cost of Rs. 1942.51 crore. The airport development is programmed to be accomplished by June, 2010.

(b) & (c) At present, Kolkata is directly air linked with Agartala,Aizwal,Ahmedabad,Bagdogra, Bangalore,Bhubaneswar,Chennai,Delhi,Dibrugarh,Dimapur,Guwahati,Hyderabad,Imphal,Jaipur,Jamshedpur ,Jorhat,Lucknow,Mumbai,Nagpur,Patna,Port Blair,Raipur,Ranchi,Shillong,Silchar and Vizag. Government has laid down route dispersal guidelines with a view to achieve better regulation of air transport services taking into account the need for air transport services of different regions of the country including North-East region.It is, however, up to the airlines to provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability.As such, the airlines are free to operate anywhere in the country subject to compliance of route dispersal guidelines issued by the Government.

(d) On a request of Government of West Bengal, Airports Authority of India (AAI) has prepared an on-site inspection report for establishment of a new Greenfield airport at Andal near Asansol.AAI has brought out several issues which need to be addressed.The Airport Promoter has been advised to address these issues while preparing the project report.